

WYATT et al.

Application No.: 09/805,377

April 16, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the abstract in its entirety and substitute in its place the new abstract attached hereto on a separate page.

ABSTRACT

b1 A section of tapered optical fiber is provided to protect optical components from catastrophic damage that may propagate within an optical route. The tapered section functions as a fuse to arrest the propagation of optical power induced damage by leaking optical power from a waveguiding region below a threshold, below which further propagation of damage is not supported.
